in the form of undertaking that the level crossing in lieu of which the Road over bridge is being constructed will be closed on commissioning of the Road over bridge.

The Road Over Bridge at Aishbagh was constructed in lieu of the level crossing on cost sharing basis. On commissioning of the Road Over Bridge, the level crossing is to be closed as per conditions of agreement.

Measures to stop import of fertilizers

3150. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the level of imports of fertilizers is getting increased year by year due to shortage of fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, the quantum of shortage and the quantum of fertilizers imported during the last five years;

(c) whether Government have worked out any permanent solution to weed out this shortage, considering the fact that India is primarily an agriculture based State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) The import of fertilizer is being done to bridge the gap between the demand and indigenous production of fertilizers. The production, imports and consumption of UREA, DAP and MOP in the last five years is as under:—

(Qty. in lakh MT)

Year	Production			Imports			Consumption		
	Urea	DAP	MOP	Urea	DAP	MOP	Urea	DAP	MOP
2001-02	191.73	50.94	Nil	2.20	9.33	28.34	199.7	61.81	19.93
2002-03	187.27	52.36	Nil	0.00	3.70	25.33	184.93	54.73	19.12
2003-04	192.00	47.30	Nil	0.00	7.34	25.80	197.67	56.24	18.41
2004-05	200.68	51.85	Nil	6.41	6.44	34.09	206.65	62.56	24.06
2005-06	200.97	46.9	Nil	20.57	24.38	45.76	222.04	68.31	25.88

The import of 20.57 lakh tonnes of Urea in 2005-06 includes 13.25 lakh MT import of granular urea under long term Urea Off Take Agreement (UOTA) from Oman India Fertilizer Company (OMIFCO), Oman. The imports of MOP also include the quantity utilized for indigenous production of Complex fertilizers.

(c) and (d) Government is continuously pursuing a policy to incentivise indigenous production and improvement of efficiency by conversion from Naphtha to Natural Gas based production of Urea. In P&K sector, due to inherent dependence on imported raw materials, intermediates and finished fertilizers, the government has been encouraging setting up of joint ventures abroad in resource rich countries, in order to secure adequate supplies of P&K fertilizers to India to meet its growing demand.

Outsourcing the construction of tracks of dedicated freight corridor

3151. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to outsource construction of tracks of the dedicated freight corridor projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far, this would help the Railways to avoid funds crunch?

THE MINSITER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Catering arrangements in Railways

†3152. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the catering system/arrangement in the Railways is not proper and well and the quality of the food being supplied is neither of standard quality nor appropriate for the health;

(b) whether despite all this, the IRCTC has now decided to provide catering facilities at par with the facilities being provided in the aeroplanes;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.